

### Comments from Alan Cloninger:

Looks ok to me

### Comments from Wayne Bowers:

As I read the policy, any primary PSAP is eligible to apply for a grant. The statute refers to grants for those "PSAPs in rural and other high-cost areas." Did the committee consider defining rural and high cost areas?

There does not appear to be a maximum amount for individual grants. In order to insure a distribution of funds among PSAPs, did the committee consider establishing a maximum grant amount?

On page 7 under the section on consolidation projects the last sentence in the first paragraph reads: "This feasibility study may be completed with local funds and with staff assistance." Since earlier in the paragraph demonstration of feasibility is made a prerequisite before submitting a grant, the "may" in the subject sentence should be changed to "must." Is the reference in this sentence to local staff or 911 Board staff? That reference needs to be clarified.

### Comments from David Corn:

#### Grant Committee (pg. 4)

"The chairperson of the Board will make appointments **from the 911 Board** to the Grant Committee for the PSAP Grant Program." There was discussion recently to allow non-Board members to participate in the granting process. I believe adding participants who were not appointed as members of the Board will create undue pressure on the participating Board members to approve requests that would otherwise not be approved.

I would also like to add I think it is a good idea if the Grant Committee and every other committee have membership in proportion to the composition of the Board in order to offer more balanced decisions. I believe there was a reason why the legislature selected the composition of the Board as it did. I would also like to add that often there is a great deal of debate and disclosure that results in a recommendation to the full Board that the full Board is not privy to. It is important that the recommendations presented to the 911 Board have the benefit of balanced representation. The Board often votes on the basis of trust that the issue has been fully and fairly vetted in committee and without sufficient knowledge of the discussion to make more than a cursory judgment.

#### How to Apply/Deadline (pg. 5)

However, once an application has been submitted, it cannot be changed without the intervention of NC 911 Board **or NC 911 Board** staff.

Purpose (pg. 9)

We have already stated that grants are one time expenditures and are not necessarily designed to carry over into multiple years. Services tend to be ongoing unless they are limited to the installation of the equipment. Are we setting an inappropriate expectation with the PSAPs that there are services that we can and will fund that are not related to installation or are multiyear?

Program Concept (pg. 9)

Add the statement: **Grants for funds may not be for equipment that is not already on the NC 911 Board Approved Expenditure list.**

Program Concept (pg. 9 and pg.10)

Grant funds may be requested, ~~but are not limited to~~ **for** the following initiatives: training of PSAP personnel; future technologies beneficial to E-911; and business continuity, disaster planning and redundancy planning and technology. When we say “but are not limited to” aren’t we opening ourselves up to almost any grant request?

**Comments from Jean Thaxton:**

*Page 4 - Grant Committee. First - I would suggest that the make-up of the grant committee be representative of the make-up of the 911 Board. Diversity of viewpoints is helpful to ensure issues are fully vetted before being sent to the entire Board for approval. Also, I believe the committee should be made up of only Board members as opposed to bringing in outside persons.*

*Page 9 - Program Concept - Add the statement: **Grants for funds may only be for equipment that is on the NC 911 Board Approved Expenditure list.***